

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1, amend claims 2-4, and add new claims 5 and 6 as follows. A detailed listing of all present claims, new claims, and amendments is provided below in compliance with revised 37 CFR 1.121.

1. (Canceled):

2. (currently amended) A fuel cell humidifying system for supplying a fuel cell with a wet gas produced by providing a dry gas and an exhaust gas discharged from the fuel cell into a humidifier which has a water permeable membrane and for recovering moisture contained in the exhaust gas in the dry gas to produce the wet gas, comprising:
a flow path switching mechanism for switching gas passages leading to the humidifier, according to claim 1, wherein the flow path switching mechanism enables the dry gas to flow through an exhaust gas passage in the humidifier.

3. (currently amended) A fuel cell humidifying system for supplying a fuel cell with a wet gas produced by providing a dry gas and an exhaust gas discharged from the fuel cell into a humidifier which has a water permeable membrane and for recovering moisture contained in the exhaust gas in the dry gas to produce the wet gas, comprising:
a flow path switching mechanism for switching gas passages leading to the humidifier, according to claim 1, wherein the flow path switching mechanism enable to reverse a direction of flow of exhaust gas in the humidifier by switching the gas passage.

4. (currently amended) A fuel cell humidifying system for supplying a fuel cell with a wet gas produced by a humidifier, comprising:
a cleaning mechanism for preventing clogging of a water permeable membrane in the humidifier.

5. (new) A fuel cell humidifying system for supplying a fuel cell with a wet gas produced by providing a dry gas and an exhaust gas discharged from the fuel cell into a humidifier which has a water permeable membrane and for recovering moisture contained in the exhaust gas in the dry gas to produce the wet gas, comprising:

a flow path switching mechanism for switching gas passages leading to the humidifier, wherein the flow path switching mechanism enables the dry gas to flow to an exhaust gas passage in the humidifier when the outside air temperature is equal to 0°C or lower.

6. (new) A fuel cell humidifying system for supplying a fuel cell with a wet gas produced by providing a dry gas and an exhaust gas discharged from the fuel cell into a humidifier which has a water permeable membrane and for recovering moisture contained in the exhaust gas in the dry gas to produce the wet gas, comprising:

a flow path switching mechanism for switching gas passages leading to the humidifier, wherein the flow path switching mechanism enables the dry gas to flow to an exhaust gas passage in the humidifier when pressure at an inlet of the water permeable membrane exceeds a preset value.